

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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OASD(PA AND E):MR. LEONARD  
JCS/J-5:MGEN. CLELAND (INFO)  
EUR/RPM:ROBINSON/FROEBE  
EUR/RPM:WSHINN

-----064477 082041Z /66

P R 081954Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS  
USLOSACLANT  
CINCLANT  
USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091061

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM

REF A.USNATO 3504, DTG 06165Z APR 78; B. USNATO 03573,  
DTG 071744Z APR 78

1. WE CONCUR IN PROPOSED TEXT OF LETTER TO EWG  
CHAIRMAN PETRIGNANI WITH FOLLOWING CHANGES:

A. CHANGE FIFTH SENTENCE OF SECOND PARAGRAPH TO  
READ, "WE DO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT MANY OF THE RECOM-  
MENDATIONS NEED TO BE FLESHED OUT AND MADE MORE SPECIFIC,  
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IF THE MINISTERS ARE TO GIVE CLEAR GUIDANCE. BUT, IN  
GENERAL, WE WELCOME THE PAPER AND ENDORSE ITS BASIC  
THRUST."

B. DELETE THE WORDS "WE FEEL THAT" IN FOURTH SENTENCE  
OF THIRD PARAGRAPH.

C. ADD TWO ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPHS AT THE END OF THE LETTER AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE. WE ALSO BELIEVE THE APPENDICES MUST BE PROVIDED

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR EACH ANNEX, TO ASSIGN FOR ACTION THOSE ADDITIONAL ITEMS WHICH WERE APPROVED BY CONSENSUS AT THE REINFORCED EWG MEETING OR REMANDED FOR FURTHER STUDY. WITHOUT THESE, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR NATIONAL DELEGATIONS TO SEE A COMPLETE PICTURE. UNQUOTE. FYI: WE NOTE MUMFORD'S DESIRE TO DEFER THIS UNTIL AFTER THE SUMMIT, BUT ARE QUITE UNPREPARED TO ACCEPT IT AS YET. WE MAY SETTLE FOR DEFERRING ACTION, BUT ONLY IF THE APPENDICES HAVE BEEN DRAFTED. END FYI.

QUOTE. LASTLY, WE WISH TO POINT OUT THAT PARAGRAPH FIVE OF THE DRAFT FOR HEADS OF GOVERNMENT GREATLY EXAGGERATES THE LIKELY COST IMPLICATIONS OF THE LTDP, PRIMARILY BECAUSE IT DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES MADE AT THE REINFORCED EWG MEETING. OUR ROUGH ESTIMATE IS THAT THE TOTAL 15-YEAR COST OF THE MEASURES ACTUALLY CALLED FOR IN THE DRAFT EWG REPORT WOULD NOT EXCEED \$50-55 BILLION (IN 1977 PRICES) -- AND MIGHT BE CONSIDERABLY LESS. THE DIFFERENCE FROM OUR PREVIOUS ESTIMATE, WHICH WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF, REFLECTS BOTH RECASTING AND REVISION OF A NUMBER OF LTDP PROPOSALS. MOREOVER, A LARGE PROPORTION OF THE COST OF LTDP PROPOSALS IS EITHER ALREADY IN NATIONAL PROGRAMS THROUGH THE MID-TERM OR COULD BE FUNDED BY MODIFICATION OF EXISTING PROGRAMS TO CONFORM THEM TO LTDP STANDARDS. WE EMPHASIZE THIS BECAUSE OF OUR CONCERN LEST MANY NATIONS STILL SEE THE LTDP AS REQUIRING MASSIVE ADDITIONAL OUTLAYS WHICH ARE NOT IN FACT REQUIRED. UNQUOTE.

2. INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEETING OF 13 APRIL ARE UNDER PREPARATION.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PLANS, DEFENSIVE WEAPONS SYSTEMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780153-0049  
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**Message ID:** 7aa8aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3027981  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** MPOL, NATO  
**To:** USNATO  
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